

Caseload Trends by Service Component

for Children in California

Report Month of July 2000

California Department of Social Services ■ Research and Development Division ■ Data Analysis and Publications Branch



EMERGENCY RESPONSE CASELOAD TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENTATION

OVERVIEW:

The Child Welfare Services (CWS) Program is California's primary statewide intervention program for abused, neglected and exploited children. The statutory authority for the CWS program is contained in Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 16500. The goal of the CWS program is to protect children at risk of abuse and neglect through an integrated services delivery system, and to provide intensive services to families to ensure safety and permanence that will allow the family to stay together in their own home. In the event that a child cannot safely remain in his or her home, the child is placed in out-of-home care; and services are provided to the child and family to remedy the neglect, abuse or exploitation so the child can be returned home. If it is unlikely that the child will ever be able to return home, an alternative permanent living arrangement (such as adoption or guardianship) is established to ensure that the child experiences a safe, caring, and stable family structure in which to grow up.

The CWS program offers a continuum of services that includes:

Emergency Response (ER) Component

ER is designed to provide initial intake services in response to reported allegations of child abuse, neglect or exploitation. County Welfare Departments (CWDs) are required: to determine whether an in-person investigation of circumstances and facts is required to determine the potential for, or existence of, abuse or neglect; to conduct such investigation when required; and to identify the need and type of services to be provided.

Family Maintenance (FM) Component

FM is designed to provide time-limited protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation for the purpose of preventing separation of children from their families. CWDs are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and family aimed at sustaining the child in the home.

Family Reunification (FR) Component

FR is designed to provide time-limited services while the child is in temporary foster care to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation when the child cannot safely remain at home. CWDs are responsible for determining the

specific service needs of the child and/or family aimed at reunifying the child with the family.

Permanent Placement (PP) Component

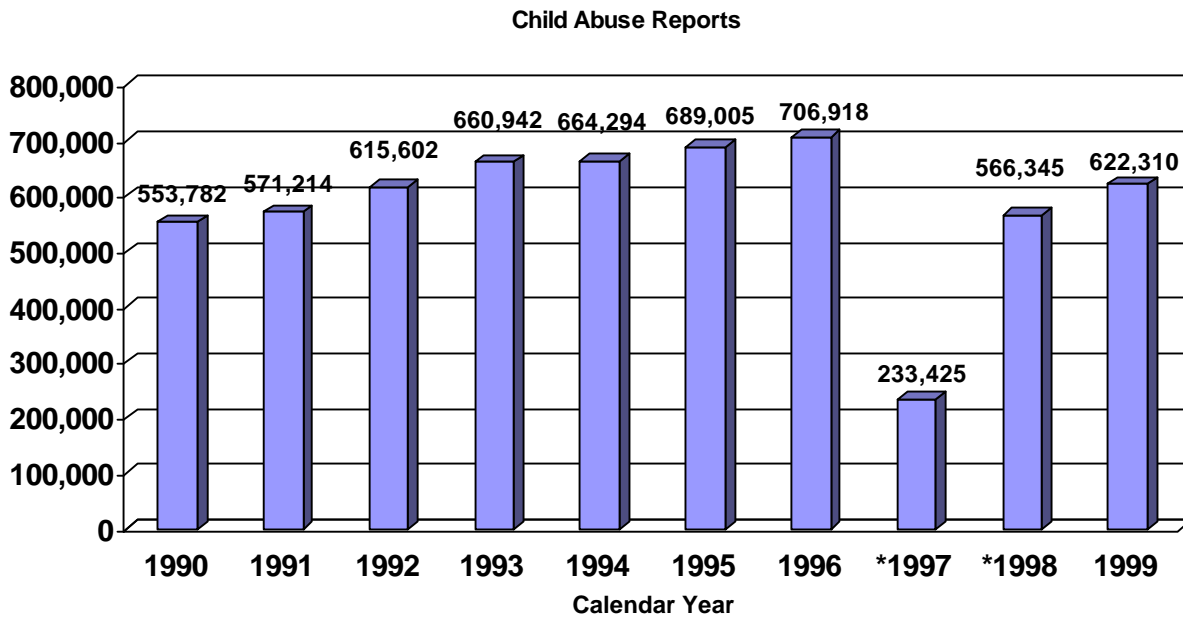
PP is designed to provide an alternative permanent family structure for children who because of abuse, neglect or exploitation cannot safely remain at home and who are unlikely to ever return home. The CWDs are responsible for determining the appropriate permanent goal for the child and facilitating the implementation of that goal. These goals are defined as guardianship, adoption or long-term placement.

DATA SOURCES:

The information contained in this report was derived from the following sources:

- Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS)
- Department of Finance annual population demographics
- Contracts and Financial Analysis Bureau
- US Census Bureau

Emergency Response(ER) Referrals Received for Children Living In California

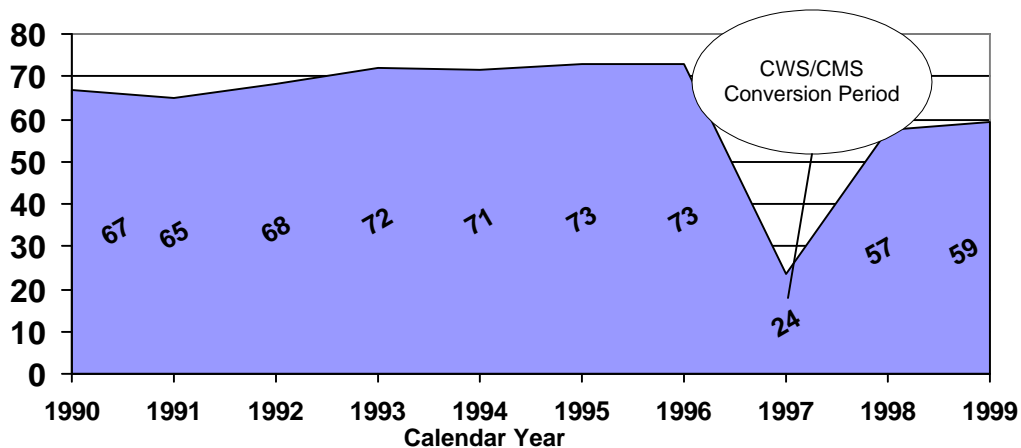


*During FY 97/98 counties were converting to CWS/CMS.

1999 Child Abuse Reports By Types of Abuse

Type	Number	Percent
Sexual Abuse	73,153	11.7%
Physical Abuse	140,156	22.5%
Severe Neglect	16,884	2.7%
General Neglect	216,139	34.7%
Emotional Abuse	49,581	7.0%
Exploitation	1,415	.2%
Caretaker ABS/INCAP	43,259	6.9%
At Risk, Sibling Abuse	80,441	12.9%
Invalid	1,282	.2%
Total	622,310	100.0%

Child Abuse Reports Rate per 1000 California Children



1999 Child Abuse Reports Compared to The Child Population and Total Population and Incidence Rates

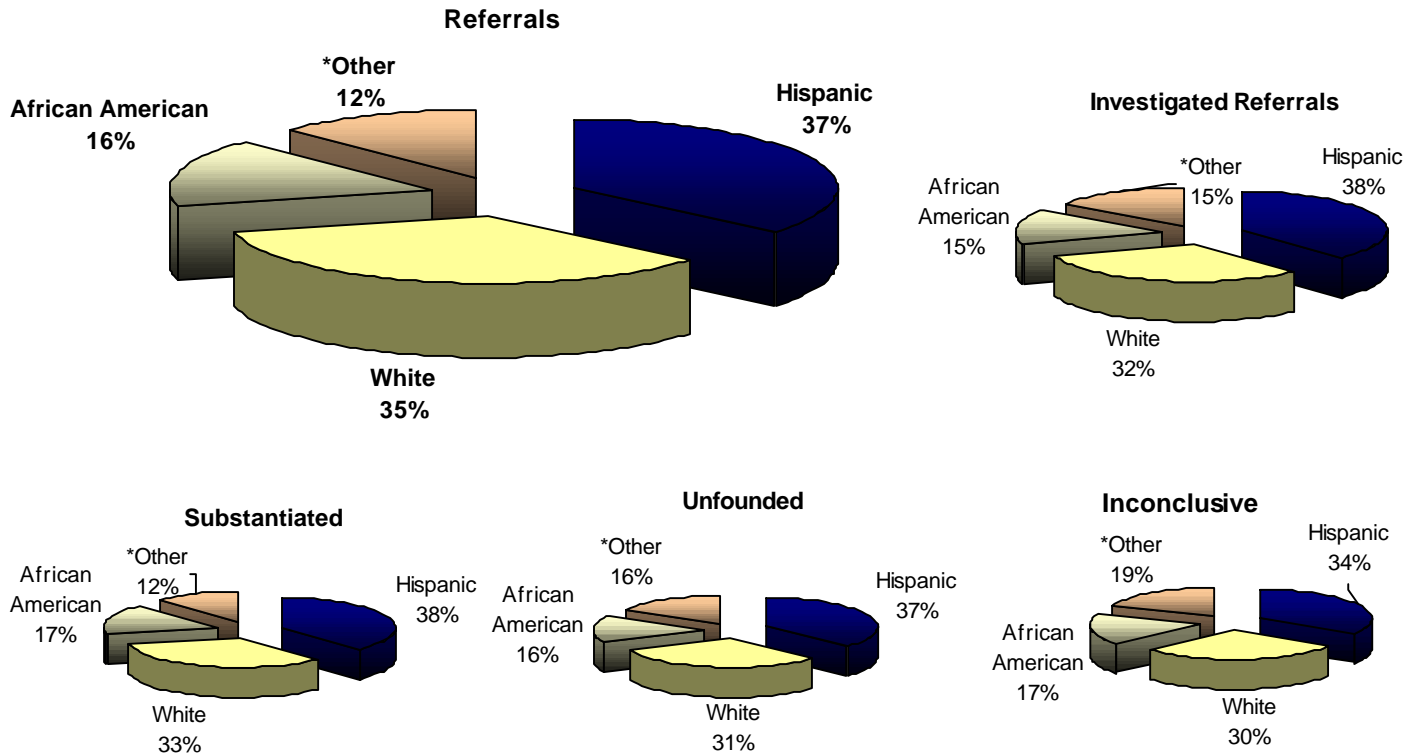
COUNTY	Child Abuse Reports	Child Population	Incidence per 1,000 Children	Total Population	Incidence per 1,000 Children
STATEWIDE	622,310	10,061,439	62	34,035,625	18
ALAMEDA	19,941	398,205	50	1,448,700	14
ALPINE	19	241	79	1,170	16
AMADOR	455	6,865	66	33,650	14
BUTTE	8,228	52,742	156	200,600	41
CALAVERAS	986	9,747	101	38,350	26
COLUSA	299	6,278	48	18,750	16
CONTRA COSTA	16,358	247,810	66	932,000	14
DEL NORTE	1,028	7,724	133	27,450	41
EL DORADO	1,980	41,409	48	152,400	26
FRESNO	22,425	272,202	82	794,200	16
GLENN	860	8,979	96	26,900	18
HUMBOLDT	4,819	33,147	145	126,100	37
IMPERIAL	3,616	51,025	71	145,600	13
INYO	580	4,607	126	18,050	28
KERN	19,442	221,422	88	651,700	32
KINGS	4,765	39,964	119	127,300	38
LAKE	2,014	14,579	138	55,400	25
LASSEN	1,220	7,761	157	33,350	32
LOS ANGELES	148,203	2,971,765	50	9,790,000	30
MADERA	3,797	37,318	102	116,600	37
MARIN	2,248	53,437	42	246,700	36
MARIPOSA	404	3,712	109	15,900	37
MENDOCINO	3,492	23,875	146	86,500	15
MERCED	6,599	75,554	87	207,000	33
MODOC	144	2,567	56	9,575	9
MONO	163	2,772	59	10,800	25
MONTEREY	6,330	125,085	51	390,900	40
NAPA	768	30,902	25	124,200	32
NEVADA	1,586	21,665	73	90,500	15
ORANGE	22,763	821,590	28	2,813,700	15
PLACER	6,018	64,832	93	232,000	16
PLUMAS	603	4,605	131	20,200	6
RIVERSIDE	34,637	475,486	73	1,504,100	18
SACRAMENTO	34,760	349,955	99	1,202,100	8
SAN BENITO	719	15,456	47	49,700	26
SAN BERNARDINO	47,565	574,474	83	1,674,700	30
SAN DIEGO	78,885	833,935	95	2,883,500	23
SAN FRANCISCO	6,052	158,190	38	797,200	29
SAN JOAQUIN	10,676	179,608	59	562,600	14
SAN LUIS OBISPO	6,010	59,895	100	240,500	28
SAN MATEO	5,275	188,570	28	727,300	27
SANTA BARBARA	7,836	112,304	70	408,600	8
SANTA CLARA	17,010	472,895	36	1,717,600	19
SANTA CRUZ	4,634	68,469	68	253,400	25
SHASTA	4,938	46,839	105	165,000	7
SIERRA	18	731	25	3,180	19
SISKIYOU	1,284	11,088	116	43,750	10
SOLANO	6,298	118,705	53	394,300	18
SONOMA	4,156	117,170	35	447,300	30
STANISLAUS	12,427	144,357	86	439,800	6
SUTTER	1,982	23,780	83	77,700	29
TEHAMA	2,135	15,142	141	55,300	16
TRINITY	380	3,163	120	13,050	9
TULARE	6,144	129,652	47	365,400	28
TUOLUMNE	1,234	11,581	107	52,800	26
VENTURA	8,378	218,588	38	751,600	39
YOLO	2,918	44,916	65	158,900	29
YUBA	3,744	22,104	169	60,000	17
Unknown/Invalid	62	0	0	0	0

Source: Child Welfare Services/ Case Management System (CWS/CMS) Soc291 Report
and Department of Finance Population Demographics 1999

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Ethnic Comparison of Children By Referral Outcomes

April-June 2000



There are not any significant differences in ethnicity when comparing the outcomes of a referral.

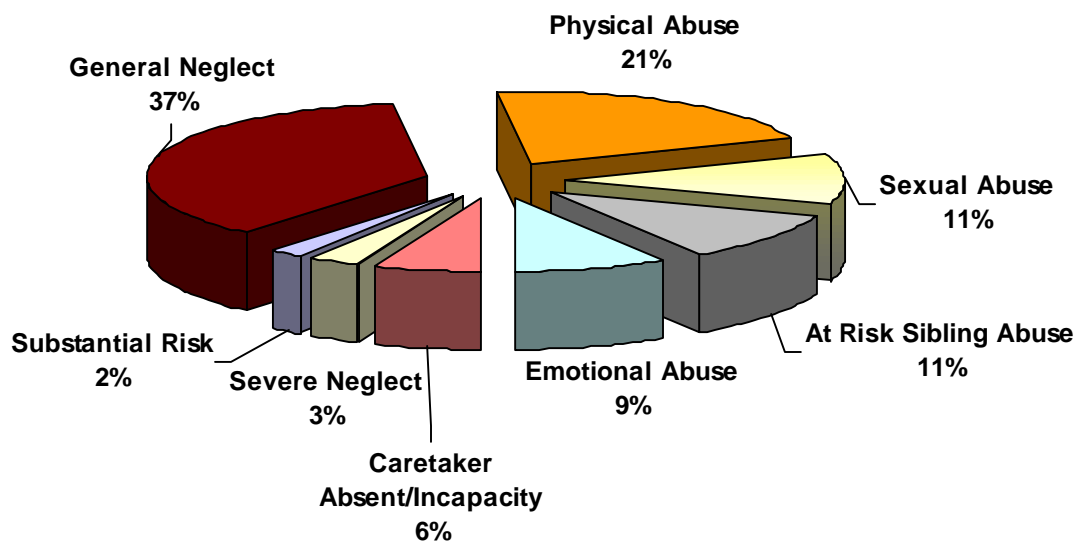
Source: Child Welfare Services/Case Management Services (CWS/CMS)

Emergency Response(ER) Services for Children Living In California

July 2000 Report Month

Reason for Emergency Response (Referral) at Disposition

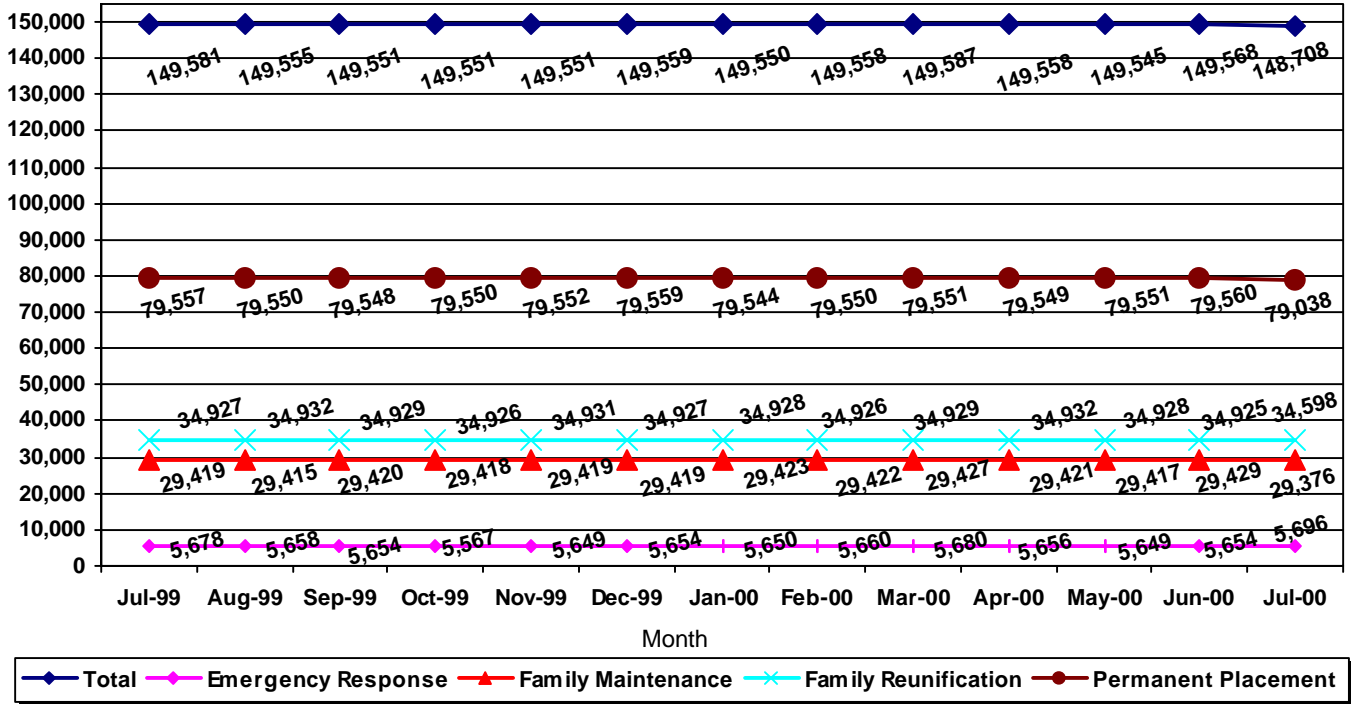
(Total 51,938)



- There were a total of 51,938 ER Dispositions during the month of July 2000.
- Neglect and caretaker absence/incapacity accounted for nearly half of all reasons for ER referral dispositions.

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Child Welfare Services Caseload Trends By Service Component



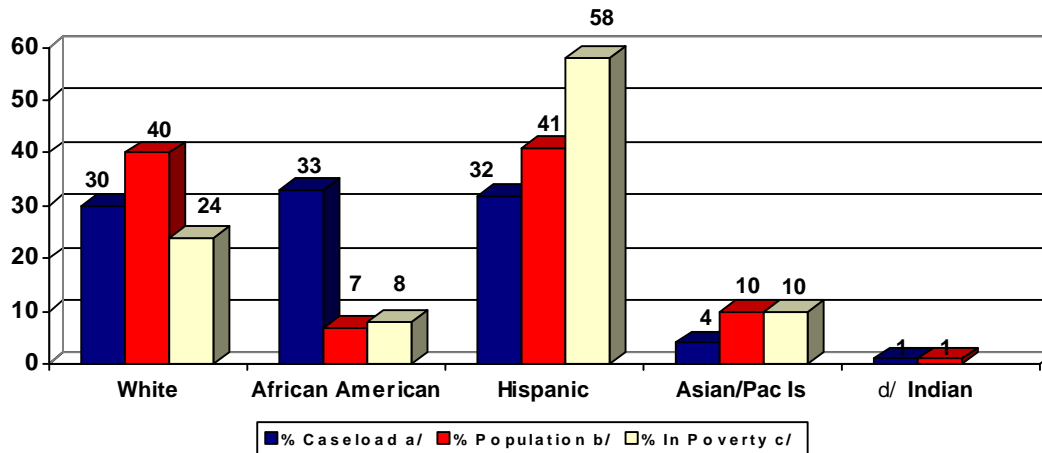
Source: CWS/CMS CAD-DataWarehouse

In July 2000 there were a total of 148,708 cases, 53% in PP, 23% in FR, 20% in FM and 4% in ER.

Characteristics Of Child Welfare Services Caseload

July 2000 Report Month
(Total 148,708)

Ethnicity Comparison of Children In A Case By California's Child Population And Proportion Of California's Children In Poverty

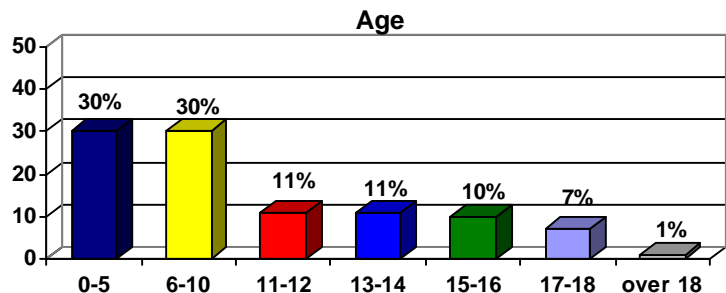


d/ The Percentage of Indian children in poverty is not shown because it is not statistically reliable.

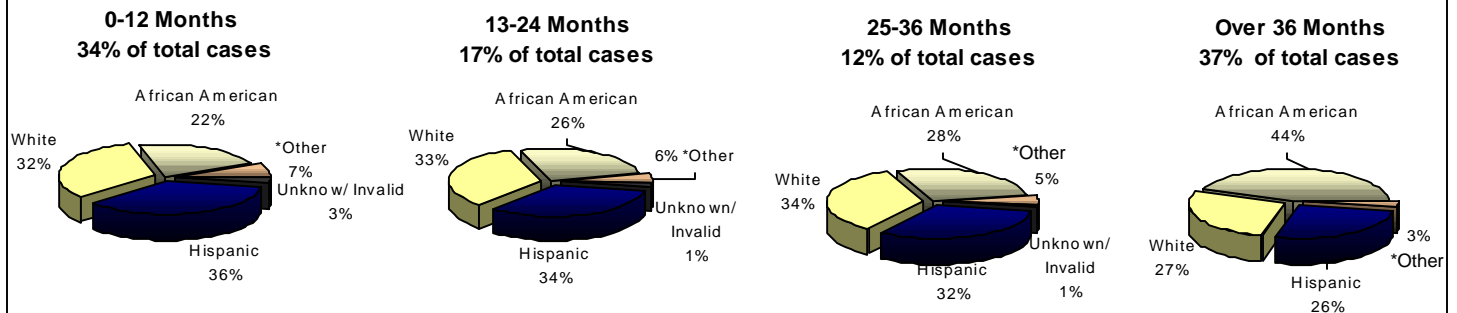
Hispanic and Black children represent 65% of the total cases and 48% of the general population in 1999 (Hispanic children represent 41% and African American children represent 7%).

% by Gender

- Female 50.2%
- Male 49.8%



Length of time current case has been open by ethnicity:



*This category represents American Indian children and Asian/Pacific Islanders.

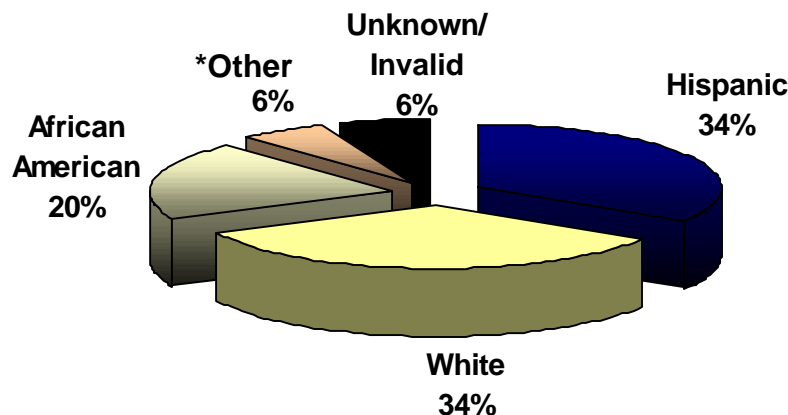
- Almost half of the current caseload has been open more than 2 years.
- 37% of the cases have been open over three years and 44% of these children are African American.

Characteristics Of The Child Welfare Service Emergency Response(ER) Caseload

July 2000 Report Month

Total ER cases (5,696)

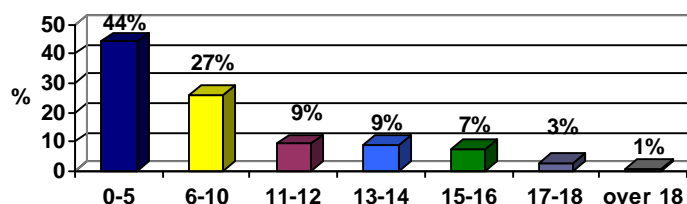
Ethnicity



% by Gender

- Female 52%
- Male 48%

Age



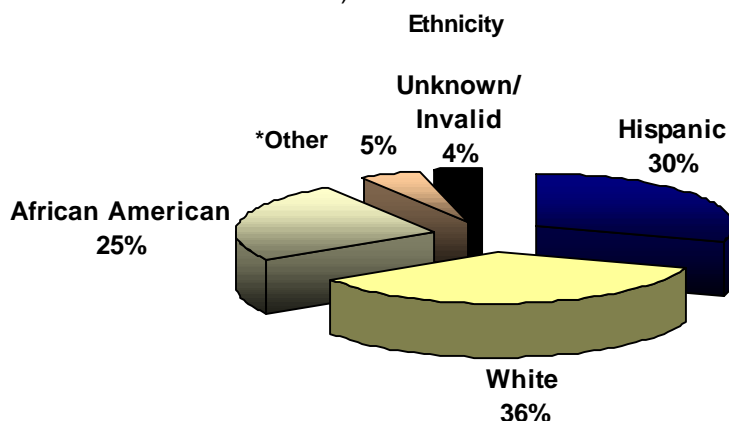
- 78% of the total ER cases have been open up to four months and children to age 5 represent 47% of these cases.
- 3% of the total cases have been open four or more years and 46% are White, 24% are African American, 24% are Hispanic, 5% are *Other races and 1% are Unknown/Invalid (This may reflect some reporting problems in CWS/CMS).
- There are 97 Indian children in ER cases and 72% are ages 12 and under.

ER cases with an open out-of-home placement

(**Represents 65% of the total ER cases)

% by Placement Home Type

- Relative Home 25%
- Foster Family Agency 25%
- Foster Family Homes 24%
- Group Homes 15%
- County Shelter/Receiving Home 8%
- Other Home 3%



- Children to age five represent 44% of these cases.
- Nonrelative Nonguardian caretakers represent 74% of the open out-of-home placements, 23% are Relative Nonguardian, 2% are Nonrelative Guardians and 1% are Relative Guardian.
- 4% of the total cases with an open out-of-home placement remain open four or more years and 47% are African American, 35% are White, 16% are Hispanic and 2% are Other Races.

* This category represents Asian/Pacific Islanders and Indian children .

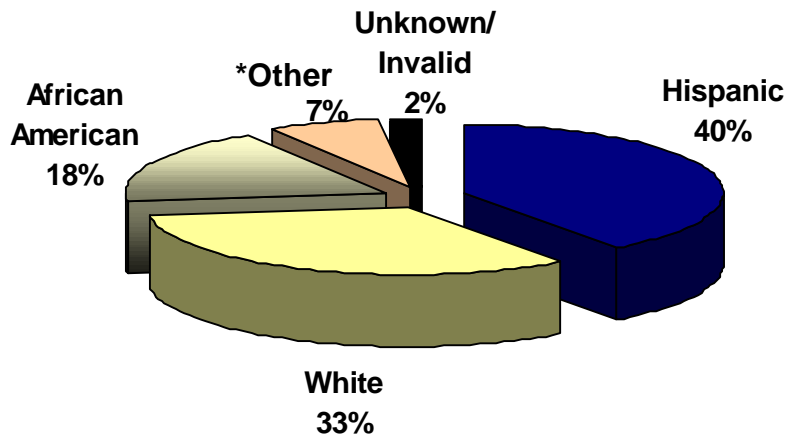
**This caseload includes children whose out of home placement record was closed, but whose placement episode record remained open for reasons deemed necessary by the social worker. Some of these cases may be erroneously included because of CWS/CMS reporting problems.

Characteristics Of The Child Welfare Service Family Maintenance(FM) Caseload

July 2000 Report Month

Total FM cases (29,376)

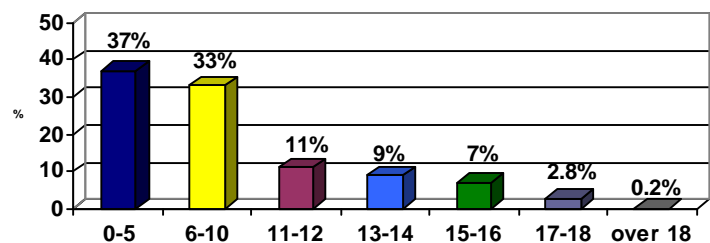
Ethnicity



% by Gender

- Female 50.4%
- Male 49.6%

Age



- Children up to age 10 represent 70% of the total cases.
- 65% of the FM cases have been open up to a year, 21% up to 2 years, 9% up to 3 years and 5% were open 4 or more years.
- A total of 2,190 cases transferred to Family Maintenance(FM) program (68% transferred from ER, 29% from Family Reunification(FR)/Permanent Placement(PP) and 3% from other jurisdictions).
- There are 299 Indian children in FM cases and 77% are ages 12 and under.

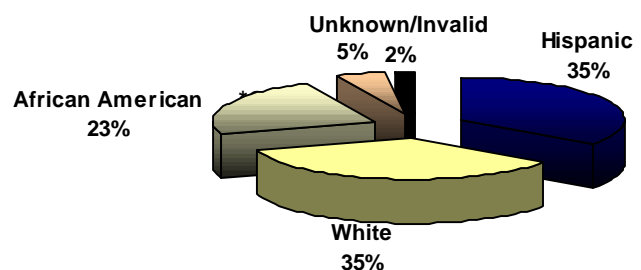
FM Cases with an open out-of-Home placement

(**Represents 11% of the total FM cases)

% by Placement Home Type

- Relative Home 34%
- County Shelter/Receiving Home 16%
- Group Homes 16%
- Foster Family Agency 15%
- Foster Family Homes 14%
- Other Home 5%

Ethnicity



- Children to age 5 (31%) and 6-10 (28%) represent 59% of these cases.
- Nonrelative Nonguardian caretakers represent 63% of the open out-of-home placements, 30% are Relative Nonguardian, 5% Relative Guardian and 2% are Nonrelative Guardians.
- 7% of the total cases with an open out of home placement have been open four or more years and 37% are African American, 34% are White, 25% are Hispanic, 2% are *Other Races and 2% are Unknown/Invalid.

* This category represents Asian/Pacific Islanders and Indian children .

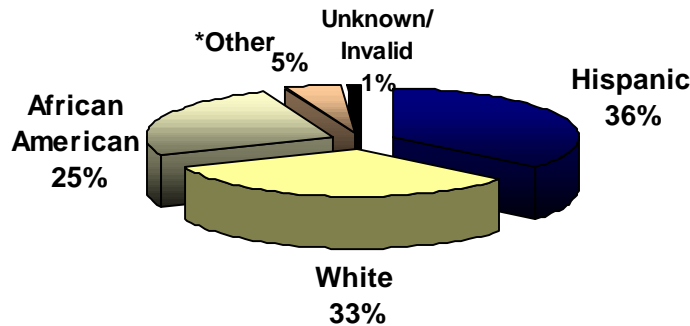
**This caseload includes children whose out of home placement record was closed, but whose placement episode record remained open for reasons deemed necessary by the social worker. This caseload may include voluntary placements, cases with additional incidents of abuse and neglect, and cases with reporting problems in CWS/CMS.

Characteristics Of The Child Welfare Service Family Reunification(FR) Caseload

July 2000 Report Month

Total FR cases (34,598)

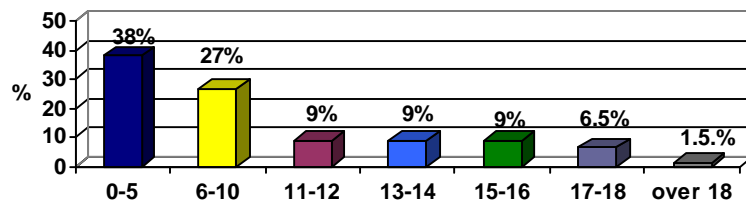
Ethnicity



% by Gender

- Female 49%
- Male 51%

Age



- 57% of the total cases have been open a year or less and 37% are Hispanic, 33% are White, 23% are African American, 5% *Other Races and 2% are Unknown/Invalid.
- 5% of the total cases have been open four or more years and 39% are African American, 30% are Hispanic, 28% are White and 3% are *Other Races.
- There are 485 Indian children in FR cases and 74% are ages 12 and under.

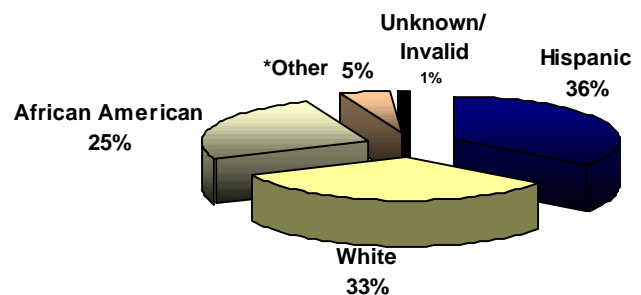
FR Cases with an open out-of-home placement

(**Represents 80% of the total FR cases)

% by Placement Home Type

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| • Relative Home | 43% |
| • Foster Family Agency | 25% |
| • Foster Family Homes | 17% |
| • Group Homes | 12% |
| • Other Home | 3% |

Ethnicity



- 80% of the FR cases had an open out of home placement.
- 83% of these placements have remained open up to one year.
- Nonrelative Nonguardian caretakers represent 57% of the open out of home placements, 40% are Relative Nonguardian, 2% are Relative Guardians and 1% Nonrelative Guardians.
- 1% of the total cases have been open four or more years and 35% are African American, 34% are White, 27% are Hispanic and 4% are *Other Races.

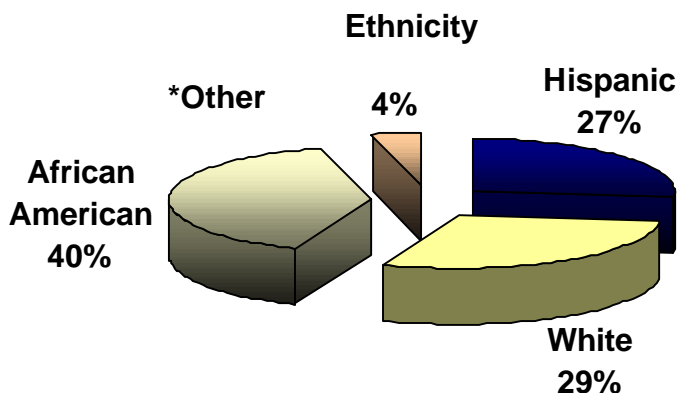
* This category represents Asian/Pacific Islanders and Indian children .

**This caseload includes children whose out of home placement record was closed, but whose placement episode record remained open for reasons deemed necessary by the social worker. Some of these cases may be erroneously included because of CWS/CMS reporting problems.

Characteristics Of The Child Welfare Service Permanent Placement(PP) Caseload

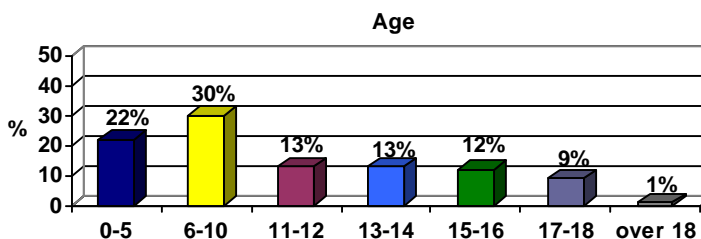
July 2000 Report Month

Total PP cases (79,622)



% by Gender

- Female 50.3%
- Male 49.7%



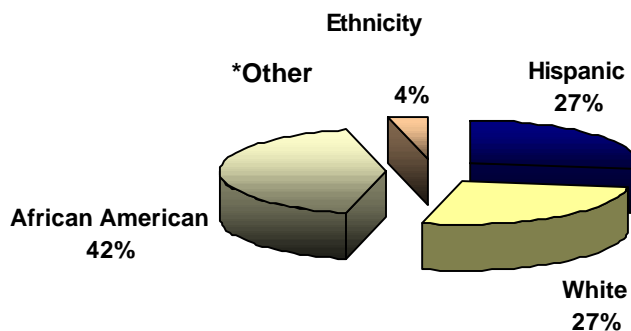
- The ratio of Black children in PP is nearly double that of the FR and FM components.
- 26% of the total cases have been open two to three years and 35% are White, 30% are Hispanic, 30% are African American and 5% are *Other races.
- 65% of the total cases have been open four or more years and 45% are African American, 26% are Hispanic, 26% are White and 3% are *Other Races.
- There are 946 Indian children in PP cases and 52% are ages 12 and under.

PP Cases with an open out-of-home placement

(**Represents 84% of the total PP cases)

% by Placement Home Type

• Relative Home	48%
• Foster Family Agency	16%
• Foster Family Homes	15%
• Guardian Homes	9%
• Group Homes	8%
• Court Specified Homes	2%
• Other Homes	2%

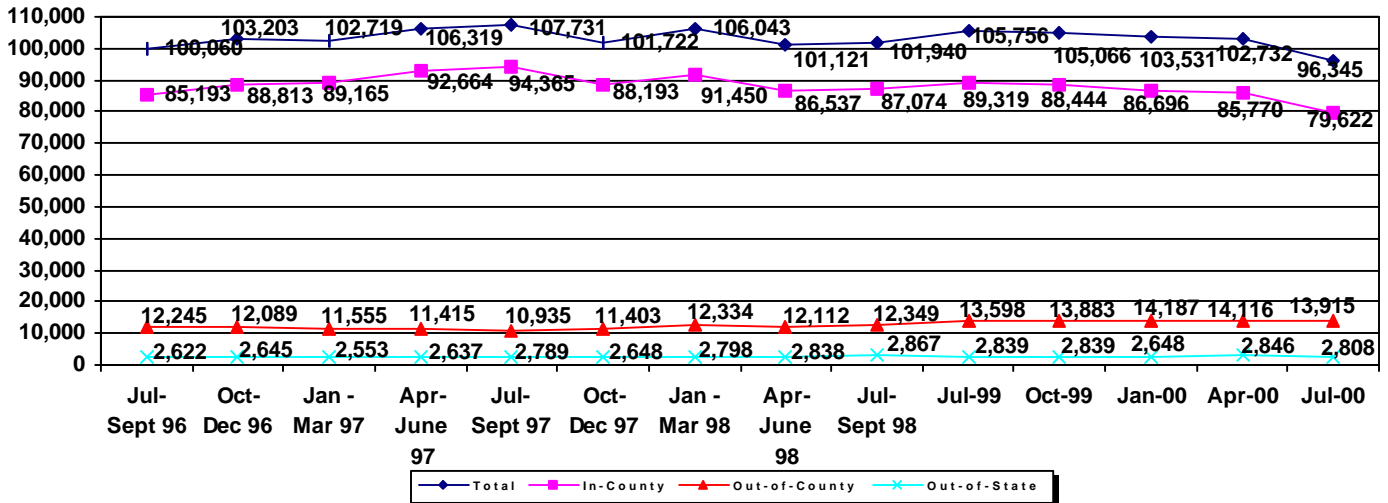


- Nonrelative Nonguardian caretakers represent 41% of the open out-of-home placements, 36% are Relative Nonguardian, 12% are Nonrelative Guardians and 11% Relative Guardian.
- 33% of the cases with an open out-of-home placement have been open four or more years and 51% are African American, 24% are Hispanic, 22% are White and 3% are *Other Races.
- 66% of the African American children are placed in Relative Homes, and 53% of the caretakers are Relative Nonguardians.

* This category represents American Indian children and Asian/Pacific Islanders.

**This caseload includes children whose out of home placement record was closed, but whose placement episode record remained open for reasons deemed necessary by the social worker. Some of these cases may be erroneously included because of CWS/CMS reporting problems.

Caseload Trends For Welfare Supervised Children In Out-Of-Home Placement



a/ Source: Foster Care Information System

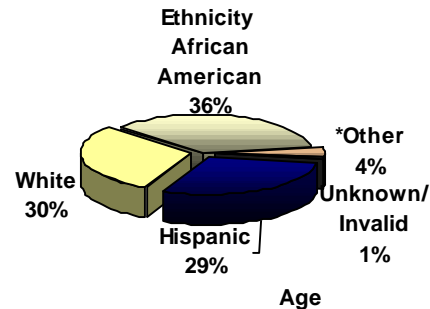
b/ Source: Child Welfare Services/Case Management System

c/ The caseload excludes approximately 5,000 children whose out of home placement record was closed, but whose placement episode record remained open for reasons deemed necessary by the social worker.

Characteristics of Child Welfare Services Welfare Supervised Children July 2000 Report Month

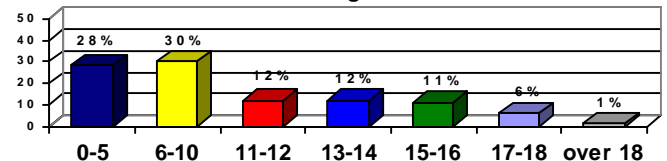
% by Placement Home Type

• Relative Home	44%
• Foster Family Agency	20%
• Foster Family Homes	17%
• Group Homes	7%
• Guardian Homes	6%
• Other Home	2%
• Court Specified Home	2%



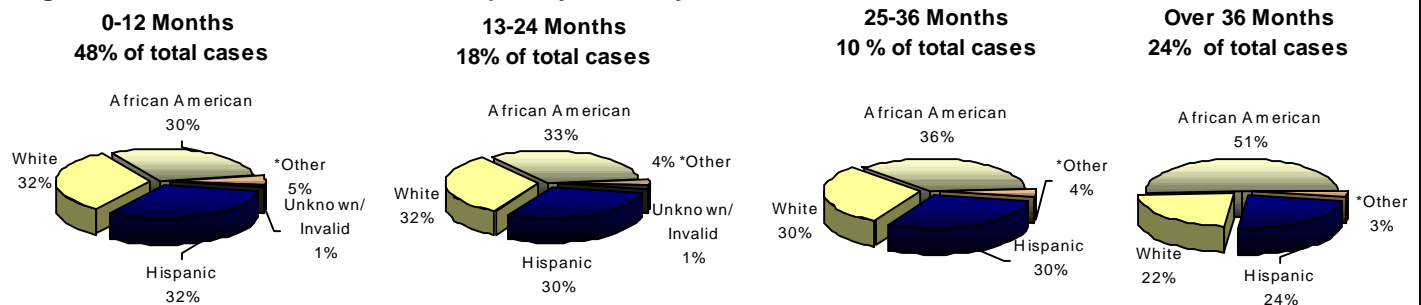
%by Gender

- Female 49.5%
- Male 50.5%



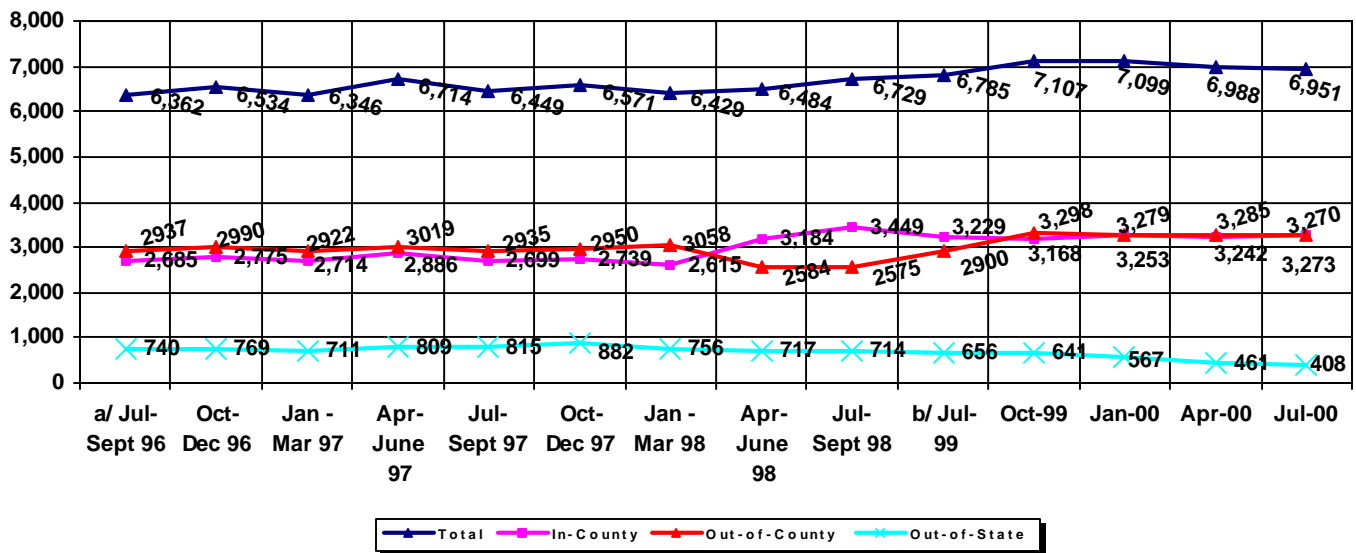
- There were a total of 96,345 welfare supervised children with an open out-of-home placement during the July 2000 report month.
- Nonrelative Nonguardian caretakers represent 48% of the open out-of-home placements, 37% are Relative Nonguardian, 8% are Nonrelative Guardians, and 7% are Relative Guardian.
- 24% of the cases have been open over 3 years and 51% of these children are African American.
- 50% of the African American children in out-of-home placement are placed in Relative Homes, and 43% of the caretakers are Relative Nonguardians.

Length of time current case has been open by ethnicity:



*This category represents American Indian children and Asian/Pacific Islanders.

Child Welfare Services Caseload Trends For Probation Supervised Children



a/ Source: Foster Care Information System

b/ Source: Child Welfare Services/Case Management System

CWS/CMS1 Monthly Report

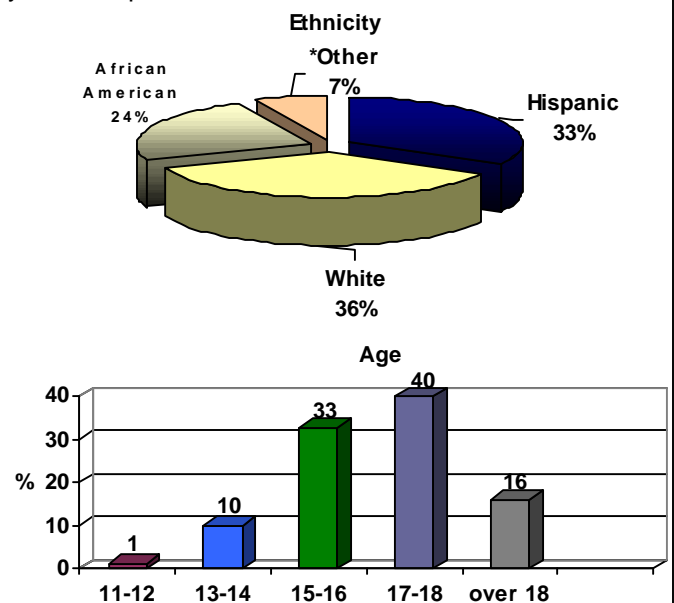
Characteristics of Child Welfare Services Probation Supervised Children July 2000 Report Month

% by Placement Home Type:

- Group Home 79%
- Court Specified Home 9%
- Foster Family Agency 5%
- Relative Home 3%
- Foster Family Home 2%
- Other Home 2%

% by Gender:

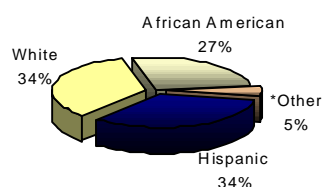
- Female 22%
- Male 78%



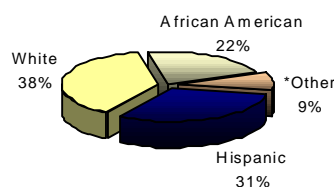
- There were a total of 6,951 probation cases.
- 52% of the cases have been open a year or less.
- Children up to age 16 represent 60% of the Group Home placements.

Ethnicity of children by county placed in:

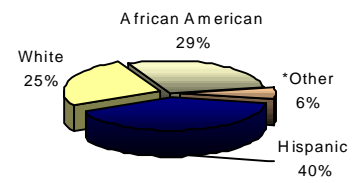
In-County (Total 3,273)



Out-of-County (Total 3,270)



Out-of-State (Total 408)



*This category represents American Indian children and Asian/Pacific Islanders.